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ENGLISH

GRAMMAR

TENSES

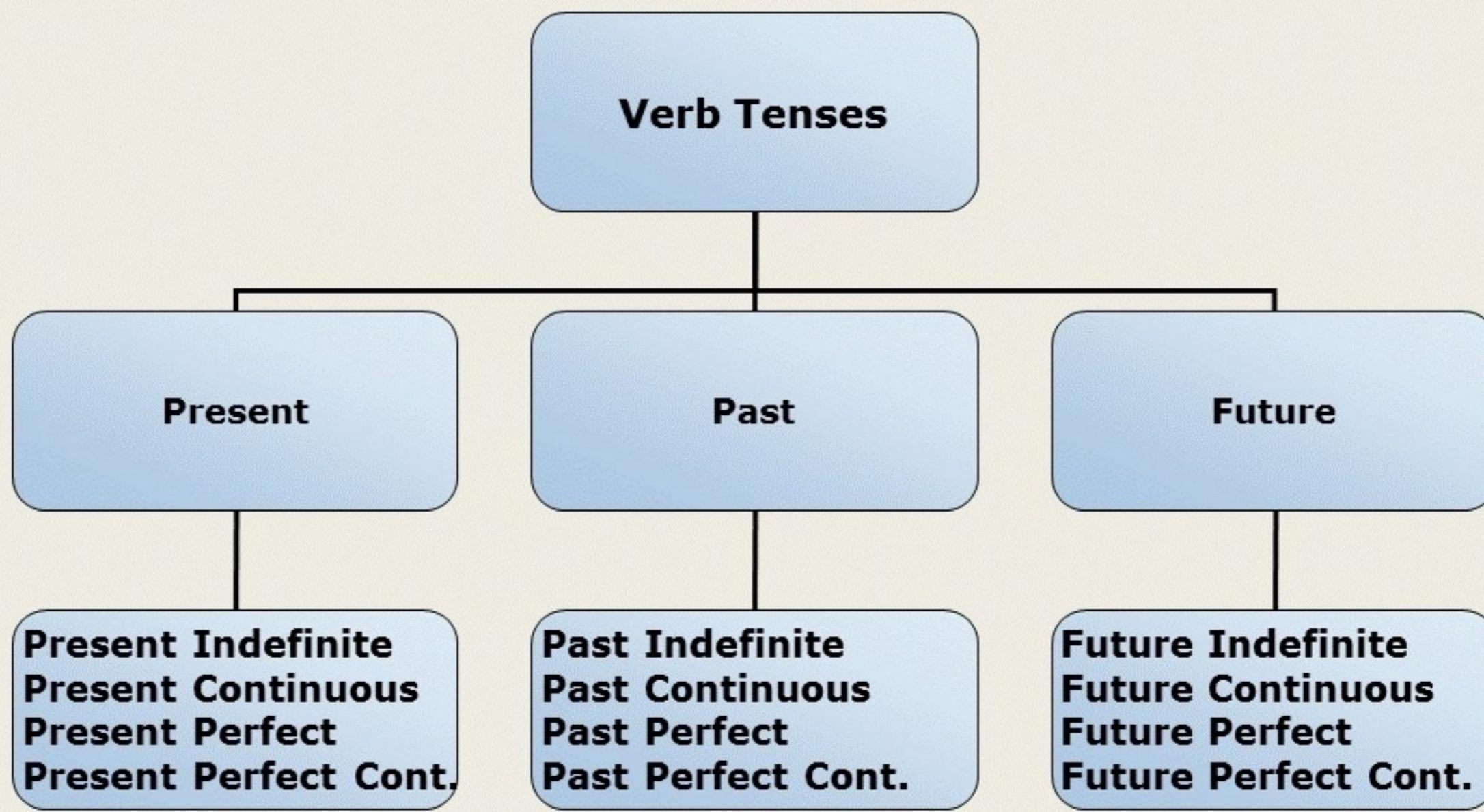
Here is a list of rules of these tenses:

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	Simple Forms	Progressiv e Forms	Perfect Forms	Perfect Progressiv e Forms
Present	Ist form + s / es	am/is/are + Ist form + ing	have/h as + IIIrd form	have/has been + Ist form + ing
Past	IIInd form	was/were + Ist form + ing	had + IIIrd form	had been + Ist form + ing
Future	will/shall + Ist form	will be + Ist form + ing	will have + IIIrd form	will have been + Ist form + ing

There are twelve possible verb tenses.

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Here is a list of examples of these tenses and their definitions:

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	Simple Forms	Progressive Forms	Perfect Forms	Perfect Progressive Forms
Present	I play	I am playing	I have played	I have been playing
Past	I played	I was playing	I had played	I had been playing
Future	I shall play	I shall be playing	I shall have played	I shall have been playing

Present Tense

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Present

Present Indefinite Tense

Present Continuous Tense

Present Perfect Tense

Present Perfect Cont.Tense

Present Indefinite Tense

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The simple present is used to describe an action, an event, or condition that is occurring in the present, at the moment of speaking or writing.

For Example—

I play.

He / She plays.

Present Continuous Tense

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The present continuous emphasizes the continuing nature of an act, event, or condition.

For Example —

I am playing.

He / She is playing.

They are playing.

Present Perfect Tense

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The present perfect tense is used to describe action that began in the past and continues into the present or has just been completed.

For Example—

I have played.

He / She has played.

Present Perfect Cont.Tense

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The present perfect continuous is used to describe an action, event, or condition that has begun in the past and continues into the present.

For Example —

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I / You have been playing.

He / She has been playing.

Past Tense

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Past

Past Indefinite Tense

Past Continuous Tense

Past Perfect Tense

Past Perfect Cont.Tense

Past Indefinite Tense

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The simple past is used to describe an action, an event, or condition that occurred in the past.

For Example—

I played.

He / She played.

Past Continuous Tense

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The past continuous tense is used to described actions ongoing in the past.

For Example—

I was playing.

He / She was playing.

You were playing.

Past Perfect Tense

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The past perfect tense is used to refer to actions that took place and were completed in the past.

For Example—

I had played.

He / She had played.

Past Perfect Cont.Tense

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The past perfect continuous is used to indicate that a continuing action in the past began before another past action began or interrupted the first action.

For Example—

I had been playing.

He / She had been playing.

Future Tense

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Future

Future Indefinite Tense

Future Continuous Tense

Future Perfect Tense

Future Perfect Cont.Tense

Future Indefinite Tense

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The simple future is used to refer to actions that will take place after the act of speaking or writing.

For Example—

I shall play.

He / She will play.

Future Continuous Tense

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The future continuous tense is used to describe actions ongoing in the future. The future progressive is used to refer to continuing action that will occur in the future.

For Example—

I shall be playing.

He / She will be playing.

Future Perfect Tense

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The future perfect is used to refer to an action that will be completed sometime in the future before another action takes place.

For Example—

I shall have played.

He / She will have played.

Future Perfect Continuous Tense

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The future perfect continuous tense is used to indicate a continuing action that will be completed at some specified time in the future.

For Example—

I shall have been playing.

He / She will have been playing.

Based on Aspect

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Verb tenses may also be categorized according to aspect. Aspect refers to the nature of the action described by the verb.

There are four aspects:

- Indefinite or Simple
- Continuous or Progressive
- Perfect or Complete
- Perfect Continuous

Based on Time frame

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The verb tenses may be categorized according to the time frame:

- Present Tense
- Past Tense
- Future Tense

Present Tense :---

Present tense expresses an unchanging, repeated, or reoccurring action or situation that exists only now. It can also represent a widespread truth.

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Past Tense :---

Past tense expresses an action or situation that was started and finished in the past.

Future Tense :---

Future tense expresses an action or situation that will occur in the future.

Indefinite Tense

The three indefinite tenses, or simple tenses, describe an action but do not state whether the action is finished.

Continuous Tense

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The three continuous tenses, incomplete tenses, or progressive tenses, describe an unfinished action.

Perfect Tense

The three complete tenses, or perfect tenses, describe a finished action.

Perfect Continuous Tense

To combine the complete tenses and the incomplete tenses, to describe an action which was in progress and then finished